

House Resolution 101 - Introduced

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 101

BY GRASSLEY, COWNIE, S. OLSON, DOLECHECK, HEARTSILL,
HEATON, SODERBERG, LANDON, MOORE, BRANDENBURG,
STANERSON, DEYOE, COSTELLO, FORRISTALL, GUSTAFSON,
DRAKE, PAULSEN, KOESTER, HAGENOW, SHAW, HESS,
SCHULTZ, MAXWELL, BACON, GASSMAN, WINDSCHITL,
BYRNES, KAUFMANN, HEIN, KLEIN, PETTENGILL, SANDS,
BAUDLER, J. SMITH, ALONS, HUSEMAN, VANDER LINDEN,
UPMEYER, R. TAYLOR, OURTH, MUHLBAUER, M. SMITH,
MURPHY, LOFGREN, FRY, HALL, GASKILL, HANSON, RUFF,
HANUSA, JORGENSEN, BEARINGER, H. MILLER, RIDING,
FISHER, SHEETS, and DUNKEL

1 A Resolution urging the United States government to
2 renew its commitment to farmers, lower fuel prices,
3 and the environment by supporting a robust and
4 sustainable renewable fuel standard.
5 WHEREAS, in accordance with the federal policy
6 including the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Pub. L. No.
7 109-58, the United States government has demonstrated
8 its commitment to the long-term policy of increasing
9 the production of clean renewable fuels according
10 to a renewable fuel standard (RFS), by enabling the
11 increased domestic production and use of renewable
12 fuels, which include renewable biofuels such as
13 ethanol, biodiesel, and cellulosic and advanced
14 biofuels; and
15 WHEREAS, the RFS provides the foundation for
16 reducing this nation's dependence on foreign sources
17 of oil, reducing the price of transportation fuels,
18 reducing transportation fuel emissions, increasing

1 rural incomes, encouraging the development and
2 expansion of new advanced biofuels, and consequently
3 promoting economic growth; and

4 WHEREAS, the RFS assists in bringing new
5 technologies to farmers and consumers, and points the
6 country in the direction of energy independence; and

7 WHEREAS, international turmoil has repeatedly caused
8 increased oil spikes and increased transportation costs
9 for consumers, including increased costs attributable
10 to the transportation of food and other goods; and

11 WHEREAS, biofuels reduce greenhouse gas
12 emissions; and

13 WHEREAS, Iowa's biofuels industry has added over \$8
14 billion to Iowa's economy and generated \$2 billion in
15 new household income; and

16 WHEREAS, approximately 90,000 Iowa farmers support
17 their families and reinvigorate rural communities
18 through innovative and high-tech agricultural
19 production; and

20 WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection
21 Agency (EPA) is responsible for establishing and
22 implementing the RFS, including the requirement that
23 certain volumes of various types of biofuels be blended
24 in transportation fuels each year; and

25 WHEREAS, the EPA recently proposed reducing the
26 volume levels of ethanol and biodiesel in the RFS, in
27 direct conflict with the statute; and

28 WHEREAS, the EPA's proposal is estimated to cause
29 the loss of 37,400 ethanol-related jobs and the loss of
30 7,500 biodiesel-related jobs; and

1 WHEREAS, the EPA's proposal will cause a reduction
2 in the price of corn below the cost of production with
3 a negative economic impact on midwest farm families,
4 agribusinesses, and rural communities; and

5 WHEREAS, the EPA's proposal will cause a substantial
6 reduction in the long-term investment in biofuels
7 infrastructure and a reduction in investments in
8 further energy innovation for ethanol, biodiesel,
9 advanced biofuels, and cellulosic biofuels; NOW
10 THEREFORE,

11 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
12 That the United States government is urged to renew
13 its commitment to farmers, lower fuel prices, and the
14 environment by supporting a robust and sustainable
15 RFS and use all efforts to meet the highest possible
16 renewable fuel volume requirements set forth in
17 the current RFS in order to ensure that this nation
18 diversifies its energy portfolio; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
20 resolution be delivered to the Honorable Barack Obama,
21 President of the United States, to the Honorable
22 Gina McCarthy, Administrator of the United States
23 Environmental Protection Agency, to the Honorable Tom
24 Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture of the United States,
25 and to each member of Iowa's congressional delegation.